

Patent claims

1. Process control system (5),
featuring a processor unit (10) that is capable of determining a
5 payment figure (W) from operations (7) running in the process
control system.
2. Process control system (5) according to Claim 1,
wherein the operations (7) include the creation and/or removal of a
10 process control function, an operator action and execution of an
automation function.
3. Process control system (5) according to Claim 1 or 2,
wherein the process control system (5) includes a process control
15 computer (15), a client computer (25) and the Internet (20) and at
least a part of the operations (7) running in the process control
system (5) run on the process control computer (15).
4. Process control system according to Claim 3,
20 wherein the process control system (5) includes at least one field
device for automation of at least one system component and at least
a part of the operations (7) running in the process control system
(5) run on the field device.
- 25 5. Process control system (5) according to Claim 3 or 4,
wherein the process control computer (15) includes a Web server (30)
and the client computer (25) includes an Internet browser (35) so
that the client computer (25) is able to influence the operations
(7) running in the process control computer via the Internet (20),
30 wherein the operations (7) can also include operations by which
further operations (8) are initiated in further components (40) of
the process control system (5).
6. Process control system (5) according to Claim 5,
35 wherein the further components (40) include field devices for
monitoring and control of components (45) of a technical system that
are connected by means of radio communication (F) and/or by means of

a fixed link to the process control computer (15) and the further operations (8) also include those operations that are executed in the field devices.

5 7. Process control system (5), according to Claim 6,
wherein communication between the components of the process control
system (5) is based on the TCP/IP transmission protocol (TCP/IP).

8. Process control system (5) according to one of the Claims 1 to 7,
10 wherein the payment figure (W) is a service fee to be paid by the
user of the process control system (5) to an Application Service
Provider.